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Joint Board Matter

Chairman Sharon Bulova
Supervisor Jeffrey C. McKay

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While the mountains of snow have diminished somewhat, the effects of snowmaggadon will be with us for some time yet to come. These storms and their aftermath have also given us insight into what happens in an emergency and what it means to be prepared. We had a powerful illustration of government performing its primary function—keeping us safe and able to move around. We saw citizens working together in their neighborhoods, looking after their neighbors, and lending a hand with a shovel or snow blower. We saw the private sector pitch in and generously offer housing, food, and equipment to our public safety and facilities personnel. In my own district, I'd like to thank the many individuals, organizations, and businesses that helped out. (A list is attached.)

There are valuable lessons to be learned from these extraordinary storms and so we have scheduled a Snow Summit/Transportation Committee meeting for March 16 in the Board auditorium from 3:30 to 5:30 pm. This will take

the place of the Transportation Committee meeting that had been scheduled for that date.

The purpose of this meeting is to assess both what worked well and what did not at the state—Virginia Department of Transportation—and County level. The lessons learned from this summit will be invaluable not only for the next snow storm, but for any emergency be it natural or man-made. Our agenda will include a report on what took place, what worked well and what did not, as well as suggestions and plans to address deficiencies that we identify. We encourage Board members, County agencies, and citizens to report problems and issues to our Office of Public Affairs in advance of this meeting and request that our Office of Public Affairs provide these comments to the summit presenters. This will allow staff and presenters to be prepared to address issues at the summit.

The snow summit will include the Virginia Department of Transportation, the County's public safety agencies, Fairfax County Public Schools, County Facilities Management, and the public information officers for the above agencies. A draft agenda is attached. I have also attached my own comments and observations.

We will be inviting our Northern Virginia Delegation to attend and participate, as well. The summit will be televised by Channel 16